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Museums & Cultural Affairs

The City of El Paso Public Arts Committee (PAC)
Tuesday, June 12, 2012, 3:30 PM
City Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room

MINUTES

- 1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 3:43 pm.
- **2. Roll Call: Members Present**: Ken Gorski, Floyd Johnson, Martina Lorey, Marina Monsisvais (Chair), Gustavo Reveles-Acosta, Jane Thomas.

Members Absent: Rida Asfahani, Ray Parish, Elizabeth Thurmond-Bengtson.

Others Present: Alejandra Carrillo, Misty Castaneda, Pat Dalbin.

- 3. Public Comment: None.
- **4. Approval of Minutes.** Chair asked for approval of the Minutes for the last meeting on April 10, 2012. Jane Thomas motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Gustavo Reveles-Acosta seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.
- 5. Discussion and Action on Finalist Mitsu Overstreet for the El Paso International Airport Terrazzo Project, District 2. Pat Dalbin began by mentioning that four artists proficient in Illustrator were invited to translate their work into a terrazzo floor for the baggage claim area of the airport. The artist selected was Mitsu Overstreet, whose proposal included a river design throughout the terrazzo with washers engraved with fond memories of El Paso embedded in the design. The campaign to gather comments for the washers will be completed either via Twitter or a collection box, with Pat suggesting board members may convene to select the comments that will be used. Images were provided for review via a PowerPoint slideshow. Martina Lorey moved to approve; Ken Gorski seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously
- 6. Discussion and Action to move the location of the Rio Bosque Project to the El Paso Zoo, 4001 E. Paisano Drive, District 3. Pat Dalbin began by explaining to board members that funding for the original location never came through and the piece, "Harris Hawk", is ready. Recommendation is that the piece be moved to the zoo, where there is a place for it and the wayfinding as well. The piece will be more public-facing at the zoo, which is currently renovating a large area in the middle to be called the Chihuahuan Desert and will include the bird of prey, making this piece a really good fit for them. It was explained to UTEP officials, who the project belonged to, that the piece could not be put into storage while waiting for funding and they were advised that when funding was secured, the Rio Bosque project would be revisited. Board members were asked for permission to move the piece from Rio Bosque over to the zoo. Images were provided for review via a PowerPoint slideshow, and general discussion followed. Gustavo Reveles-Acosta moved to approve; Martina Lorey seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.
- 7. Discussion and Action on a Public Art Project for Veterans Park located in Northeast El Paso, 5301 Salem Drive, as a Tribute to El Paso Veterans of Foreign Wars and Artist Selection Process, District 4. Alejandra Carrillo began by explaining that Veterans Park does not contain anything paying tribute to veterans or soldiers. Proposed that a public art piece be placed in the park and that the artist selection process be either a local call or a regional call within a 300-mile radius of El Paso, with a budget of \$45,000. Images were provided for review via a PowerPoint slideshow. Pat Dalbin stated there would be two motions for this item, one to move forward with the public art project, and another to choose and approve the selection process. General discussion followed. Chair requested a motion to accept the project for Veterans Park. Martina Lorey so moved; Floyd Johnson seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

Chair expressed her desire to utilize a local selection process, while Martina Lorey expressed her desire for a regional process. Chair acknowledged that a regional process may heed a more varied pool of artists, but stated this would be a good starter project for a local artist to decorate our city. Martina stated

that a regional process would include local and a local artist could potentially be chosen for the project if it was the proper quality. General discussion followed. Chair requested a motion. Martina Lorey made a motion to open the pool up to regional artists within a 300-mile radius; Floyd Johnson seconded; Marina Monsisvais and Gustavo Reveles-Acosta opposed; motion passed by 4 to 2.

- 8. Discussion and Action on Finalist for the El Paso Police Headquarters Mural Project, 911 Raynor Street, District 8. Alejandra Carrillo began by reminding board members the selection panel had been held the previous day and Martina Lorey represented the PAC. It was a close call and Cimi (Jesus Alvarado) scored the highest. Martina went on to explain that the first finalist comes from an architectural background, and really studied the geometry of the blocks and his composition was good, however, it was very graffiti and stylized. Martina felt that Jesus Alvarado really loves the history of the area, he spent a lot of time thinking about it, she had the sense he would throw his whole heart and soul into it and he has more community connections when bringing students in and working with them. Images were provided for review via a PowerPoint slideshow, and general discussion followed. Chair requested a motion. Gustavo Reveles-Acosta so moved; Jane Thomas seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.
- 9. Discussion and Action to accept Ho Baron's Sculpture "A Novel Romance" into the City of El Paso Public Art Collection located in the Main Library, District 8. Pat Dalbin began by stating that this piece had been donated by the artist to the library. The piece is not in the Public Art program collection, so we are unable to perform any maintenance on it. Pat requested that the piece be included in the City's Public Art collection so that it could be overseen and taken care of. Images were provided for review via a PowerPoint slideshow, and general discussion followed. Chair requested a motion. Ken Gorski so moved; Jane Thomas seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.
- **10. Adjournment.** Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Martina Lorey moved to adjourn; Jane Thomas seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 4:26 pm. Next meeting scheduled for July 10, 2012.

Approved for content by:
Patricia Dalbin, Public Art Program Coordinator

Respectfully submitted by:
Misty Castaneda, Administrative Assistant

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